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**Q: Fast dissolving tablets / fast melting tablets ( Answered ★★★★★, 0 Comments )**

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**Question****Subject: Fast dissolving tablets / fast melting tablets****Category: Health > Medicine****Asked by: tom136-ga****List Price: \$20.00****Posted: 15 Jan 2003 01:44 PST****Expires: 14 Feb 2003 01:44 PST****Question ID: 142919**

I would like to get a general picture of the fast dissolving tablets market / fast melting tablets market. For example: technologies, medical benefits, unmet medical needs, suitable drugs, recommended drugs for these technologies, companies offering these technologies, market size, forecasts, etc.

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**Answer****Subject: Re: Fast dissolving tablets / fast melting tablets****Answered By: czh-ga on 16 Jan 2003 00:36 PST****Rated:★★★★★**

Hello tom136-ga,

The results of the research for this question overlap some of the findings for your other question on Bioadhesive technologies. Both questions relate to the larger field of drug delivery so some of the resources I listed for industry and market evaluation are applicable to both drug delivery methods.

The fast dissolving tablet market is particularly applicable to children and the elderly and anyone else who has trouble swallowing regular tablets. The thrust of the marketing is to convince the customer of a better and easier experience in taking medication. The major reason for developing new drug delivery methods for the pharmaceutical industry is to extend the life-cycle of common and familiar drugs.

The fast-dissolve tablet industry was historically dominated by the creators of Zydys® and Lyoc®. Improvements in these technologies, especially with taste masking, have emerged more recently with new products by Biovail, Cima, Ethypharm, Eurand, and Yamanouchi. I've grouped the research results by topic to help you with analyzing the results.

I wish you well in your explorations of this industry.

czh

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<http://www.drugdeliverytech.com/cgi-bin/articles.cgi?idArticle=45>  
Articles: Life-Cycle Management: The Link to Drug Delivery

In the next 5 years, at least 18 blockbuster products with combined sales of more than \$37 billion will lose patent protection. By 2010, an additional 300 drugs will go off patent. With increasing generic competition and escalating NCE development expenses, drug companies face growing pressure to maximize the value of their drugs throughout their life cycles and improve the return on investment for their product portfolio.

Biopharmaceutical companies look to the drug delivery industry for technologies that can assist in their development and marketing strategies for these products. Currently, the most sought after drug delivery technologies include those that provide bioavailability enhancement, quicker onset of action, fast-dissolve formulations, parenteral solubilization, parenteral controlled-release systems, needle-free injections, pulmonary delivery, improved transdermal delivery, and novel vaccine delivery systems.

The drug delivery industry is responding as demonstrated by the number of novel and validated technologies being introduced into the marketplace. For example, historically, there were two widely used fast-dissolve tablet technologies, Zydys® and Lyoc®. Both technologies were based on freeze-drying processes and, while successful for use with certain active ingredients, both technologies had some limitations, including taste-masking and drug-loading capabilities. Recent technological advances have resulted in new products by Biovail, Cima, Ethypharm, Eurand, and Yamanouchi that provide additional taste-masking and drug-loading capabilities.

Drug delivery is an extremely valuable life-cycle management tool. It provides a number of strategic opportunities to both protect and expand brand franchises through extended patent lives, new indications, and novel dosage forms.

<http://www.samedanltd.com/homepage/pmpsSample.htm>  
Uncontrolled Growth of Controlled Release  
Drug Delivery Technology and Markets

<http://otc.isu.edu/~das/Presentations-2001-pdf/zydis.pdf>  
The Zydys Drug Delivery System  
11 page report on rapid dissolve tablet process

<http://www.pharmaquality.com/advanced.html>  
Advanced Drug Delivery: On Time and On Target  
R.P. Scherer commercialized in 1986 a fast-melt tablet system, called Zydys®, that dissolves in the mouth in seconds. "It dissolves in the mouth and creates a liquid suspension. There's no lump to swallow and you don't have to take it with water," Kearney says. The technology is used in products such as Imodium, an antidiarrheal compound manufactured by Janssen/ J&J; Pepcid, an antiulcer compound manufactured by Merck & Co.; and Claritin, an antihistamine compound manufactured by Schering Plough. It is also being investigated for use

in oral vaccines.

<http://www.elan.com/DrugDelivery/technologies/fastmelt.asp>

Fast-melt tablets have emerged as a patient-friendly, convenient method of administering medications. Fast-melt technology is particularly applicable to life cycle management opportunities to allow additional formulation presentations of a successful drug. Fast-melt technology has a perceived faster onset of action as the dosage form is disintegrated prior to reaching the stomach and is ideal for acute diseases and particularly applicable to manage breakthrough symptoms.

Fast-melt formulations serve the large number of patients who are unwilling or unable to swallow conventional dosage forms, including both geriatric and pediatric patients, and those patients whose swallowing is compromised as a clinical symptom of disease.

Fast-melt tablets are generally characterized by a hydrophilic matrix, which allows prompt disintegration of tablets when in contact with saliva. The prompt disintegration releases the active drug moiety trapped in the matrix permitting the patient to swallow the product in the form of a liquid, or a suspension in the case of non-soluble components.

<http://www.drugdeliverytech.com/cgi-bin/articles.cgi?idArticle=60>

Articles: Superporous Hydrogels for Pharmaceutical & Other Applications

DEVELOPMENT OF FAST-DISSOLVING TABLETS

<http://atlas.pharmalicensing.com/licensing/browse/321>

licensing Sector Drug delivery Oral solid Tablet

<http://www.usanahealthsciences.com/research/Excip.shtml>

Tablet Excipients

Excipients are inactive, non-medicinal ingredients that are used by all manufacturers of tableted products to impart desirable characteristics important for manufacture, convenience of use, and product efficacy. Most are powdered materials that are blended with the active ingredients prior to tableting.

<http://www.pformulate.com/disintegr.htm>

Excipients

WHAT IS A DISINTEGRANT?

Some superdisintegrants and their properties are listed below.

<http://www.glycologic.co.uk/tech.htm>

The rapid disintegration tablet excipient (RDE) offers extremely fast dissolution from tablets with good hardness made with standard techniques. The excipient is made from inexpensive materials with low toxicity using a straightforward process.

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FAST DISSOLVING TABLET COMPANIES

<http://www.spipharma.com/aboutus.html>

SPI Pharma is a world wide leader in custom formulation solutions for pharmaceutical and nutraceutical manufacturers. By offering raw materials, processing capabilities, and advanced application technologies we have become a valued source for complete custom

delivery systems. This provides a competitive advantage for our customers' formulations. Pharmaburst is SPI Pharma's new easy to use "quick dissolve" tablet delivery platform.

<http://www.eurand.com/page.php?sid=3>

Eurand is a specialty pharmaceutical company that develops enhanced pharmaceutical and biopharmaceutical products using our innovative drug delivery technologies. The Company's drug development efforts are based on three commercialized technology platforms; bioavailability enhancement of poorly soluble drugs, customized release and taste masked/quick dissolving formulations. Eurand has recently added a fourth technology platform, drug targeting, to its capabilities that, once commercialized, can be applied to small molecule and biotechnology derived products for improved drug delivery.

<http://www.kinam.com/>

Akina, Inc.

Designing the Future Drug Delivery Technologies.

Engineering and research services specializing in controlled drug delivery and design of biomedical products.

<http://www.antareshpharma.com/content/products/melting/>

The combined technologies of needle-free, mini-needle and transdermal gel position Antares Pharma to become a leader in drug delivery systems - a market that is large, global and growing.

Many patients have difficulty swallowing tablets and hard gelatine capsules, and consequently do not take medications as prescribed. It is estimated that 50% of the population is affected by this problem, which results in a high incidence of non-compliance and ineffective therapy.

[http://atlas.pharmalicensing.com/company/disprelease/1024926104\\_3d17219864311](http://atlas.pharmalicensing.com/company/disprelease/1024926104_3d17219864311)

ETHYPHARM AND VIATRIS TO MAKE TREATMENT OF MODERATE TO SEVERE PAIN MORE CONVENIENT

Ethyparm, one of the world's leading drug delivery system (DDS) companies, and VIATRIS (formerly ASTA Medica), announce today that they have entered into a collaboration to develop an innovative oral formulation of Tramadol for the relief of moderate to severe pain, using Ethyparm's unique Flashtab® technologies.

<http://www.ethyparm.com/generate.htm?1>

Ethyparm is one of the world's leading drug delivery systems (DDS) companies that provides a range of effective solutions to optimise the delivery of pharmaceutical products

<http://atlas.pharmalicensing.com/company/dc/459#profile>

Ethyparm

Innovative Drug Delivery Solutions provider (full profile)

Many news articles about technologies and capabilities

[http://www.kvpharmaceutical.com/tech/3\\_quick\\_dissolving\\_tablets.html](http://www.kvpharmaceutical.com/tech/3_quick_dissolving_tablets.html)

The system under development at KV allows for the ability to tastemask, while at the same time dissolve a wide range of drug candidates quickly in the mouth.

<http://www.taisho.co.jp/outline/r1s/htm/101900-e.htm>

Product Release: Semper QT, Quick Dissolving Motion Sickness Tablets

[http://www.ther-rx.com/news/1\\_company\\_fact\\_sheet.asp](http://www.ther-rx.com/news/1_company_fact_sheet.asp)

Wholly owned subsidiary of KV Pharmaceutical Company (KV), the Ther-Rx Corporation uses advanced, patented drug-delivery technologies to create unique and revolutionary prescription products. Through our innovative and unique technologies, such as SITE RELEASE®, tastemasking, quick-dissolving tablets, and oral extended/delayed release, we're working to advance medicine in order to improve our patients' health and well-being.

<http://www.pslgroup.com/dg/16d5ce.htm>

Benadryl Allergy/Cold Fastmelt Tablets Now Available In The US  
PALO ALTO, CA --February 23, 2000 -- Yamanouchi Pharma Technologies, Inc. and Warner-Lambert Company announced the national launch of Benadryl(R) Allergy/Cold Fastmelt(R) tablets. This product represents the first launch of the WOWTAB(R) quick-dissolve dosage form in North America, and the first product to emerge from an exclusive development, license and supply partnership between the companies involving the market-leading Benadryl franchise.

<http://www.epipharma.com/ProductsFolder/127PharmaBurst/127PharmaBurst-TB.pdf>  
PharmaBurst "Quick Dissolve" Delivery System for Tablets

[http://www.cardinal.com/content/news/062300\\_100566.asp](http://www.cardinal.com/content/news/062300_100566.asp)

R.P. Scherer to Acquire Rights to Proprietary Topical Delivery Technologies from Advanced Polymer Systems

BASKING RIDGE, N.J., June 23 /PRNewswire/ - R.P. Scherer Corporation, a subsidiary of Cardinal Health, Inc. (NYSE: CAH) and a leading developer and manufacturer of soft-gelatin capsules, rapid-dissolving tablets and other drug delivery systems, announced today it has agreed to acquire a manufacturing center and the rights to two proprietary, topical drug delivery technologies from Advanced Polymer Systems, Inc. of Redwood City, California.

<http://www.cimalabs.com/tech.htm>

CIMA LABS INC. (Nasdaq: CIMA) develops and manufactures prescription and over-the-counter products based upon its proprietary, fast-dissolve drug delivery technologies, OraSolv® and DuraSolv®.

The fast dissolve technologies are: OraSolv®, Sustained Release/Controlled Release and DuraSolv®.

We develop and manufacture drugs for pharmaceutical company partners. At year-end 2001, CIMA was manufacturing three branded prescription pharmaceuticals (for AstraZeneca, Organon and Schwarz Pharma) and two over-the-counter brands (for Novartis and Mead Johnson, an affiliate of Bristol-Myers Squibb).

<http://www.hoovers.com/co/capsule/2/0,2163,42142,00.html>

CIMA LABS makes pills that melt in your mouth. Through its OraSolv technology, CIMA makes coatings that microencapsulate drugs -- mostly prescription products -- into tablets that dissolve quickly in the mouth for ingestion without water or chewing.

[http://www.corporate-ir.net/ireye/ir\\_site.zhtml?ticker=CEPH&script=1801](http://www.corporate-ir.net/ireye/ir_site.zhtml?ticker=CEPH&script=1801)

Cephalon -- Business Strategy, Product Sales & Future Outlook  
Cephalon's international presence grew dramatically in 2001, and the acquisition of products and companies continues to be part of the company's growth strategy. In 2001, Cephalon acquired additional rights to GABITRIL and completed the acquisition of Laboratoire L. Lafon, a major pharmaceutical company in France. Each of these acquisitions is expected to be rapidly accretive to earnings at

Cephalon and serve not only to broaden our product portfolio but also our global reach.

Lafon's "Lyoc" delivery technology, which is used to create rapid-dissolve tablets, complements Cephalon's oral transmucosal technology being developed in our Salt Lake City facility.

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SEARCH STRATEGY  
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fast melting tablets  
rapid disintegration tablet  
rapid dissolve technology  
"rapid dissolve" "drug delivery"

tom136-ga rated this answer:\*\*\*\*\*

A great answer! Very useful. Also thank you very much for your QUICK RESPONSE!!!  
Regards,  
Tom136

## Comments

There are no comments at this time.

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